

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Richmond Division

BILL DESTEPH,
Plaintiff,

v.

Civil No. 3:20cv951 (DJN)

MAMIE E. LOCKE, *et al.*,
Defendants.

ORDER
(Finding an Exception to General Order No. 2020-23)

This matter comes before the Court on its own initiative. On December 11, 2020, Chief Judge Mark Davis entered General Order No. 2020-23, limiting “all gatherings, including gatherings within our Courtrooms, to no more than ten individuals whenever possible, recognizing that exceptions will be necessary to allow continued operation of our Court while preserving public access to our proceedings.” (Gen. Order 2020-23 (“GO-23”) (Case No. 2:20mc007, ECF No. 24) at 4-5.)

Due to the time sensitive nature of the proceedings in this case and the number of parties involved, the Court FINDS that exceptional circumstances exist that warrant a departure from this general rule for the purposes of conducting the hearing scheduled for December 31, 2020, at 10 a.m. During the hearing, a maximum of fifteen (15) individuals will be allowed in the courtroom including:

- Plaintiff and two lawyers (3)
- Two Defendants and three lawyers (5)
- The Court and four staff members (5)

- A witness (1)
- One additional security officer as needed (1)

Let the Clerk file a copy of this Order electronically and notify all counsel of record.

It is so ORDERED.



/s/
David J. Novak
United States District Judge

Richmond, Virginia

Dated: December 30, 2020